

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 7, Folder 3

April 24, 1958 -
June 5, 1958

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April 24, 1958

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Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates, USN, Ret.
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

This is in response to your letter of April 21, 1958, relative to the status of the Military Pay Bill, H. R. 11470.

In your letter you inquired if it would do any good for you to write a letter to Senators Knowland and Kuchel of California, in connection with the retired officer problem as reflected in the House passed version of that bill. Senator Knowland, of course, is a power in the Senate, and his assistance might be very helpful, although it would probably be more so if he were a member of the Committee. Also, it is doubtful if he could do much at this late date because the full Committee is expected to receive, and probably approve today, the recommendations of the subcommittee. If the subcommittee does not include the retired officers in the manner in which they have traditionally been included in the past, it is unlikely that the full Committee would overrule them. I might add, however, that we have contacted the members of the full Committee, so they will at least know what they are voting on when they take action on the Subcommittee's recommendations.

I wish to express my thanks for the kind remarks you made with reference to my efforts in Congressional matters as they bear on retired officers. It is also desired to assure you that your particular case serves to point out very vividly the inequity contained in the House passed bill.

0826

Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates, USN, Ret.

- 2 -

April 24, 1958

There is apparently one statement in your letter which I do not think is entirely accurate. You say, in effect, that you doubt that the House would have passed the bill had they been aware of the undesirable feature with respect to retired officers. I can assure you that the members of the House Armed Services Committee were fully advised as to what they were doing about the retired officers, when they recommended to the full Committee that the bill be passed in the form in which it ultimately was passed.

It is always a pleasure to hear from a member on matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely,


H. A. HOUSER
RADM, USN, (Ret.)

0827



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

25 April 1958

MANPOWER, PERSONNEL AND RESERVE

Dear Rafe:

Thank you for your letter of 21 April, and for the many kind sentiments expressed therein.

I am quite sure that you are all set. Lt. Colonel Benade (Army) on my staff was the prime mover on the Kilday version of the Cordiner Bill. He is, in fact, Mr. Pay Bill. He was, and still is, retained by both House and Senate Committees as chief advisor thereon.

As a matter of interest, the President yesterday asked for cost figures to include all presently retired to re-compute under new scales. Rumor has it some of his old Army cronies pointed out to him the inequities of the proposed laws. How they broke through the thermal layer surrounding the President I do not know. It is difficult. I think he is sometimes ill-advised by his staff; that he is occasionally shaved by a drunken barber, so to speak.

My best to you and the Reading Room gang. Remember me to Willie Doyle, please.

Sincerely,

Don D.

D. C. Varian
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

*P.S. After your return
why don't you visit your
old buddy Spike in La Jolla?
D.C.V.*

0828

THE JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE
AND
MEDICAL CENTER
PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 7, 1958

My dear Dick:

My apologies for not replying more promptly to your very nice letters. But this has been rather a hectic winter and spring for me, as our very able Dean unfortunately died of a heart attack, and we have just recently selected a new one.

I have read over your letters carefully and I quite agree that the Navy is very short-sighted in not keeping you on, to complete your most important work. I had hoped to be in Washington and have an opportunity to take the matter up with Tom Gates, or possibly to see him up here. Unfortunately neither has been possible.

Frankly the one way, in my opinion, in which you can be continued in this important work, is for the President of the War College to write a very strong letter, giving in detail all you have accomplished, and an estimate of what there is still to be accomplished, with the length of time it will take. I believe that no one else could present the case as well as Ingersoll or receive the attention it deserves.

Elsa and I will probably be in Jamestown the end of June, and shall certainly look forward to seeing you this summer.

0829

THE JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE
AND
MEDICAL CENTER
PHILADELPHIA 7. PA.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

-2-

Betty Lou and her three will be with Elsa during July. Incidentally, Draper has his orders to head the Plans Section on Hopwood's Staff (ComPacFlt) and will go to Honolulu in August. He has had a very successful cruise in the Far East, and apparently did very well. He wanted to go out there, or rather he definitely did not want to go back to Washington, where I think they had a job for him.

With our very best personal regards, I am

Very sincerely,

Reg

Rear Admiral Richard Bates, USN
United States Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0830



HEADQUARTERS OF THE
COMMANDANT THIRD NAVAL DISTRICT

FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING, 90 CHURCH STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

DHq-8/JHL:mkp

8 May 1958

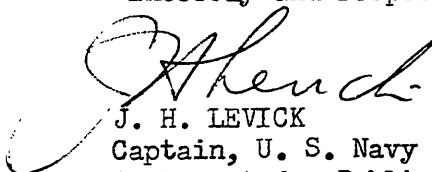
My dear Commodore Bates:

Rear Admiral C. C. Wood has asked me to reply to your letter to him of 22 April.

On the basis of information contained in the letter to Admiral Wood from Captain C. T. Booth, Chief of Staff for the Commander, Air Force, Atlantic Fleet an invitation was extended to Mr. Nicholas King of the New York Herald Tribune to cruise in the USS INTREPID from Norfolk to New York 11-16 May. Mr. King appreciated the kind invitation which was extended to him through your efforts and asked me to thank you. However, his busy schedule precludes his taking advantage of our offer.

Mr. King's name will be kept on our list of prospective cruise participants and we will extend another invitation when the opportunity presents itself.

Sincerely and respectfully,



J. H. LEVICK

Captain, U. S. Navy
Assistant for Public Information

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0831

CHIEF OF STAFF
COMMANDER U. S. NAVAL FORCES PHILIPPINES

12 May 1958

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral, United States Navy (Retired)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates,

Thank you very much for your welcome letter of 18 April, and for the Army and Navy Club of Manila proxy, duly signed by you. This proxy has been added to the many that have been received from Life-absent Regular Members of the Club during the past weeks. For your information, the task of securing of these proxies has been found necessary in order that we may take appropriate action to continue the life of the Club as the Corporate Life expires in June of this year.

In regard to the mailing list of the Club's Regular Members, considerable effort has been made to reconstitute the membership list as well as to bring the mailing list up to date. As you may know, the Club's records were completely destroyed during the war and we are most anxious to receive any and all information that will aid us in reconstituting these records. Any information that you may be able to give us in this regard will be most gratefully received.

In regard to Commodore Mark Hersey, we surely thank you for your information concerning his present address and we have sent him a proxy. Commodore Hersey was one of a great number of Life Members of the Club whose present whereabouts is unknown. We are slowly filling in some of the gaps in our Membership records and will, as you suggest, send Commodore Hersey a list of those addresses still missing and will appreciate any assistance that he and his friends may be able to give us in supplying missing data along this line.

I miss the Reading Room and my old friends there.

Warm Regards,

Dick

H. V. BIRD

P.S. It's still hot in Manila

0832

THE CLAMBAKE CLUB
NEWPORT, R. I.

May
Fourteenth
1 9 5 8

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Our President, Mr. Crawford Hill, myself and all the Board of Governors of the Clambake Club are very pleased indeed to issue cards to the officers attending the Senior Naval Reserve Officers class at the Naval War College May 24th to June 6th, and also to everyone attending the Global Strategy and shall be pleased to issue cards to them upon receipt of list.

With many thanks and kind personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Acting Secretary
Clambake Club of Newport

0833

C. W. POST COLLEGE
OF
LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY
NORTHERN BOULEVARD
BROOKVILLE, LONG ISLAND

THE PRESIDENT

May 14, 1958

P. O. BOX 247
GREENVALE, L.I., N.Y.

Dear Admiral,

Long Island University will hold a convocation at C. W. Post College at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, June 7th, 1958, on the occasion of the graduation of students who have completed their programs and earned a degree in advance of the graduation of the Class of 1959.

The Board of Trustees has instructed me to extend to you an invitation to receive the degree of Doctor of Letters.

In order to provide time for robing and forming the academic procession, it is requested that you arrive at the Great Hall about 10 o'clock. A short reception will be held following the exercises.

Sincerely yours,

Richard L. Conolly

Richard L. Conolly
Admiral, U. S. N. (Ret.)
President, Long Island University

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates
U. S. Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

0834

2320 - N. Stuart St.
Arlington 7, Va.
May 19, 1958

Dear Admiral:

I was sorry to hear that your shop is being disbanded, especially before you have finished your work. I hope you made it through the major part of the day battle on 25 Oct. In any event, what you have done will be left to posterity.

The preliminary work of typing which was our base was done by many yeomen on a piecemeal basis. However, when you and I started our first rewrite, Burton did all the typing. I don't remember that any others did any work worth mentioning.

I would love to read your write-up of Surigao Straits but between now and 30 June I don't believe I could find time to do any serious reading. My duties in OP43 have mounted with my longevity and experience which means every AdHoc committee and other detail which takes the two aforementioned qualities comes my way. I do enjoy the confidence but OH my aching back. In addition to this, we have to move out of this house by 30 June and move into new quarters -- an unexpected surprise which is about as welcome as a skunk at a lawn party. But that is life in Washington, never a dull moment! Thanks for the offer, though.

What are your plans for the future? You have been in Newport long enough to take out your Irish citizenship and become a native, but I don't imagine you will settle there, or will you? Whereever you go, the best of luck to you. Incidentally, if it is possible for Capt. Titus to let me see the book after the summer, I sure would appreciate that. Will it be published before you go?

If you find time to answer these questions, the answers would be most welcome. And of course, if you have reason to come down to Washington, the latch string is out.

Again, the best of luck to you and regards from us all.

Sincerely,

Charlie Maricle

0835



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

PERSONAL AND PRIVATE

20 May 1954

Dear Rafe:

With regard to Hindman, I have looked into his background and frankly I think he is lucky in getting the job that they have in mind for him.

He has virtually been out of circulation insofar as the fleet is concerned since the end of the war,--for what reason I don't know. Under such circumstances, he is at a great disadvantage,--and I think rightly so,--in competing with others of his time who have been doing active duty in squadrons and on ships of the fleet and at overseas billets. Under such circumstances, I don't think it would be fair either to him or to the fleet to assign him command of a fleet unit.

Hope you had a nice trip back and delivered your message successfully. Will look forward to seeing you on your next trip down. Kindest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

W. L. Rees

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0836

WILMARTH SHELDON LEWIS

FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT

23d May 1958

Dear Dick,

Annie Burr and I have received your letter with mixed feelings: delight that your work is being recognized by a university and regret--and exasperation--that the Navy Department is being so stupid as to stop it. Has everything been done to get them to reverse their decision? Sam Morison has been able to do nothing? What about our fellow-Alamedan, Knowland? I'll gladly write to Pres Bush from our State here. I'll be seeing him at the Yale Commencement on the 9th, since he is a colleague of mine on the Corporation. This small economy seems to me to be about as short-sighted as one can be. Tell me what I can do to help, if anything.

You are very good to ask us to your dinner on the 7th, but we can't be there. Yale is giving a degree to Lady Reading on the 9th and we shall have her here and three of her closest American friends over that week-end.

We expect to get to Newport on July 18th and hope to see you shortly thereafter. As usual, we shall stay very much by ourselves, but, as you know, we are always delighted to see you.

Yours ever,

Wilmarth

0037



27 May 1958

Dear Admiral,

Thank you for your kind note of congratulations on my new assignment. Gypsy and I are very pleased and look forward with a great deal of anticipation to returning to the Academy. We are aware of the great responsibility, as well as some of the headaches, but still expect to enjoy every moment.

I am sorry to be so late in acknowledging your letter, but it has been following me around until now. At the moment we are living in Washington where I am on temporary duty in BuPers being briefed and making field trips to the Service Academies, as well as several civilian universities. I expect to relieve Smeddy on 27 June.

With warmest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Charlie

C. L. MELSON
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Retired)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0838

DMq-8
26 May 1958

My dear Mr. King:

On behalf of the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Thomas S. Gates, Jr., and Rear Admiral J. H. Thach, U. S. Navy, Commander, Carrier Division Sixteen, it gives me pleasure to invite you to be a guest of the Navy aboard the aircraft carrier, USS VALLEY FORGE (CVS-45), to participate in the operational training cruise of the U. S. Naval Academy Midshipmen and the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Units. During this cruise you and the other guests will have an opportunity to witness anti-submarine exercises.

You are invited to participate in the entire cruise in the USS VALLEY FORGE, which commences in New York City on 23 June 1958, and terminates in Norfolk, Virginia, approximately 8 August, or in one of the three phases of this exercise which is scheduled as follows:

New York to Norfolk, Virginia: Embark any time between 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 19 June and Sunday, 23 June but not later than midnight on Sunday, at Pier 86, North River, New York City. Arrive in Norfolk on 7 July.

Norfolk, Virginia to Quebec, Canada: Embark at the U. S. Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia, on Saturday, 12 July, but not later than midnight on Sunday, 13 July. Arrive at Quebec on Friday, 25 July.

Quebec, Canada to Norfolk, Virginia: Embark at Quebec any time between Friday, 25 July and Wednesday, 30 July, but not later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, 31 July. Arrive Norfolk, on or about 8 August.

A flight from the Naval Air Station, New York (Floyd Bennett Field) has been scheduled for Monday, 28 July, to Quebec for guests who wish to take just the last phase of the cruise. A flight will be made from Quebec to New York on 28 or 29 July returning guests who debark at Quebec on the cruise from Norfolk, to Quebec.

A birth certificate or baptismal record is required for the visit to Quebec.

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I realize that you are a busy man, but I hope that you will be able to make the entire cruise, or at least one phase of it. It would be appreciated if you could advise me of your decision as soon as practicable so that the Commanding Officer of the VALLEY FORGE, Captain G. M. Campbell, U. S. Navy, may have someone meet you on your arrival at the port of embarkation you select.

I know that you will enjoy this cruise and the opportunity it affords you to become better acquainted with our Navy.

Most sincerely yours,

CHESTER C. WOOD
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy

Mr. Nicholas King
New York Herald Tribune
230 West 41st Street
New York 36, New York

cc: Commodore R. W. Bates, U. S. Navy ✓
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0840

31st May
1958

FARMINGTON
CONNECTICUT

Tel: Farmington ORchard 7-2140

Dear Dick,

I've just fired
this into the air, following
our fellow - flambeau
'plane. I hope it doesn't
burn him, as the jet
did. I wish I'd known
about all this earlier.

Yours ever,
Wilma

0841

UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE

June 5, 1958

ANNAPOLIS, MD.

Commodore Richard W. Bates, USN (Ret.)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island


Dear Rafe:

I am sending you a couple of copies of the Naval Institute's latest book, Victory Without War 1958-1961 by George Fielding Eliot. We have had splendid reactions on this book from a lot of the very top people in the Navy and I would be glad to have your personal opinion of it.

I am also sending a copy directly to Admiral Ingersoll.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Roy de S. Horn
Commander, USN (Ret.)
Managing Editor

0842



VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

5 June 1958

Dear Rafe:

Thanks very much for your nice letter. I was away on a trip when the appointment was being processed but have been told that the battle, such as it was, was raised on a general basis that the post should be rotated among the Services. In other words, the ground work was laid for the next round. I can only hope that the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations resolve remains firm that the Pacific area should be commanded by someone with a full appreciation of the maritime character of the area.

I look forward to seeing you again before I wind up my affairs here in July.

Sincerely yours,

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN (Ret)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

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